

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 067003  
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 SP-02 L-03 INR-07 /042 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:WMATTHEWS:JD  
APPROVED BY USOAS:REWHITE  
ARA/RPP:COL. QUIGG  
ARA/CEN:EHICKS

-----261537Z 127516 /45

R 252235Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067003

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, PFOR, PORG, OAS, ES, HO

SUBJECT: U.S. OBSERVER'S CHARGES RE OAS PEACEKEEPING  
MISSION

REF: SAN SALVADOR 1341

1. USOAS HAS DISCUSSED THESE CHARGES WITH FORD OF OAS.  
FORD IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT ALLEGATIONS OF QTE  
TRIPLE DIPPING UNQTE AND IS URGENTLY LOOKING INTO THAT  
MATTER.

2. THE OTHER CHARGES ARE HIGHLY SUBJECTIVE AND MORE  
DIFFICULT TO EVALUATE AND, TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE TRUE,  
TO REMEDY. THE PRIME ONGOING MISSION OF THE OAS OBSERVERS  
IS TO PREVENT RENEWED OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN EL  
SALVADOR AND HONDURAS. WHETHER THE OBSERVERS HAVE BEEN  
THE SOLE OR EVEN THE MAJOR CAUSE OF THE SUCCESSFUL  
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ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THAT MISSION IS, OF COURSE, IMPOSSIBLE  
TO DETERMINE. HOWEVER, SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN THERE,  
HOSTILITIES HAVE NOT REOCCURRED.

3. THE U.S. OBSERVER'S CHARGE THAT THE OAS TEAM REMAINS  
IN THE AREA QTE BECAUSE THEY ARE REWARDED HANDSOMELY TO  
REMAIN UNQTE IS OBVIOUSLY FALSE HYPERBOLE. THEY REMAIN

BECAUSE THEY ARE ORDERED BY THEIR MILITARY SUPERIORS TO DO SO AND THEY ARE ORDERED TO DO SO BECAUSE THE OAS AND THE TWO COUNTRIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED FEEL THEIR PRESENCE SERVES A POLITICAL PURPOSE. THE FACT THAT EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS, BOTH POOR COUNTRIES, ARE WILLING TO FULLY REIMBURSE THE SUPPLYING COUNTRIES, THROUGH THE OAS, FOR ALL EXPENSES OF THE OBSERVER MISSION SEEMS TO BE HIGHLY PERSUASIVE AS TO ITS VALUE. OFFICIALS OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES ARE IN THE BEST POSITION TO EVALUATE THE COST EFFECTIVENESS AND CONDUCT OF THE MISSION AND THEY HAVE REQUESTED THE MISSION'S EXTENSION ON AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, THE CONSUMERS OF THE PRODUCT WILLINGLY BUY IT.

4. BOTH THE OAS AND WE HOPE THAT, WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE SALVADORAN ELECTOCAL PROCESS, EL SALVADOR WILL PROCEED RAPIDLY WITH RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT SO AS TO ALLOW THE APPOINTMENT OF A MEDIATOR AND RAPID REMOVAL OF THE NEED TO FURTHER EXTEND OAS OBSERVER MISSION. IN THE MEANTIME, IN THE ABSENCE OF ADDITIONAL CHARGES OR EVIDENCE OF SPECIFIC ABUSES, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE MILITARY DISCIPLINE OF THE U.S. OBSERVER OFFICERS IS SUFFICIENT TO OVERCOME THE OBVIOUS FRUSTRATIONS OF TAKING PART IN SUCH A HOLDING OPERATION IN A REMOTE AND UNATTRACTIVE RURAL AREA.  
CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WMATTHEWS:JD  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** 77 SAN SALVADOR 1341  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** U.S. OBSERVER'S CHARGES RE OAS PEACEKEEPING MISSION  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PBOR, PFOR, PORG, ES, HO, US, OAS  
**To:** SAN SALVADOR TEGUCIGALPA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009